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BESS Newsletter

Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science
Publications and Other Works

11-2-2011

BESS 11/2/2011

Department of Biosystems Engineering and Soil Sciences

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UT Institute of Agriculture hosts Ag Day

The UT Institute of Agriculture held its annual Ag Day on Saturday, beginning four hours prior to kickoff. This year's theme was "New Places, New Faces."

Some of the newest leaders of the Institute of Agriculture, including Chancellor Larry Arrington and John Stier, assistant dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, were on hand to greet the public.

Ag Day visitors also had a chance to see the Brehm Animal Sciences and Food Science and Technology buildings, set for completion in spring 2012.

Fans enjoyed live music, free ice cream and popcorn, an insect petting zoo, walking tours of the UT Gardens, and an opportunity to tour "Living Light," UT's nationally recognized solar house.



Dr. Hart greets Bubba the clown outside Hollingsworth Auditorium.



Right: A line gathers on the street to get a chance to spit a frozen cricket as far as they can.

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Please submit items
to Rob Baldus
rbaldus@utk.edu

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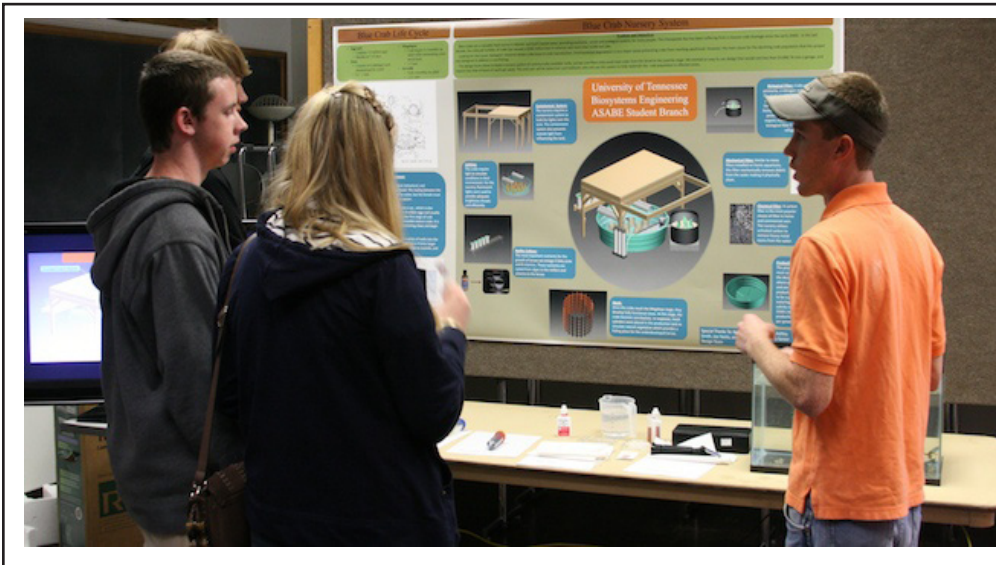
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**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

Blue Crab Nursery Project Educates at Engineer's Day



Senior **Jay Bevington** talks to students about the blue crab nursery system he helped draft as part of his senior design project.

Engineers Day has been a UT College of Engineering tradition for nearly 100 years. Each October, undergraduate engineering classes are dismissed for one day to allow university students and faculty to spend time interacting with hundreds of potential engineering students from high schools across the region.

This year, more than 600 students from 34 different high schools (and some home schoolers) traveled to UT's Knoxville campus to explore and learn about the various aspects of engineering through discussions, project demonstrations and exhibits prepared by UT engineering student clubs and societies.

Participants experienced an overview of the different engineering disciplines and saw examples of how an engineer's work impacts daily life.

Engineers Day featured four competitions for visiting students. Results for this year's Quiz Bowl, Egg Drop Competition and ASCE High School Balsa Wood Bridge Competition can be found on the [Competitions page](#).

Engineer's Cookout

• 11/05 4:00 - 7:00 PM in front of Perkins Hall

ASABE Meeting

• 11/21 5:15 PM in BESS 266

Thanksgiving Break

• 11/24-11/25

ASABE & Faculty Bowling Night

• 11/29 6:00 -8:00 PM Downunder at the UC

Holiday Party

• 12/15 2:00 PM in the reference room

BESS Research Symposium

• 4/17 3:30 PM Hollingsworth Auditorium

BESS Awards Banquet

• 4/18 6:00 PM in Hollingsworth Auditorium

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UT “SoilVols” Capture Second Place in the Southeast Regional Collegiate Soils Contest



Left to Right: Halley Coleman, John Petty, Brent Worley, Jonathan Allen, Jacob Watson, Andrew Sherfy, Tim Grant

The UT Soil Judging Team, “SoilVols” competed in the 2011 Southeast Regional Collegiate Soils Contest held Oct. 3-7 at West Virginia University in Morgantown, West Virginia.

Team members included Brent Worley, Halley Coleman, John Petty, Jonathon Allen, Tim Grant and Jacob. The SoilVols are coached by Andrew Sherfy and Mark Radosevich, both faculty members in the Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science Department.

Overall the team earned a second place finish qualifying them to compete in the 2012 National Collegiate Soils Contest to be held March 25th through the 30th also at West Virginia University.

As individuals, five of six team members scored among the top twenty contestants and the sixth was very close behind. Most notably, Brent Worley, was the highest scoring individual contestant in the entire region and John Petty placed fifth overall.

Both will receive hand carved black cherry wood plaques for their achievement. The SoilVols were narrowly defeated by the Virginia Tech Soil Judging Team. Other teams finishing third through fifth place respectively that also qualified for the national competition next in March were Auburn University, University of Kentucky, and Tennessee Tech.

For more information on UT’s Soil Judging Team, please contact Andrew Sherfy or Mark Radosevich. For additional materials on this academic year’s Regional or National contests, visit <http://soiljudging.wvu.edu>



The Soils Team practicing at the West Virginia University Organic Farm

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By [Erica Jenkins](#)

On Tuesday, October 18, the UT CASNR Ambassadors hosted their annual College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR) Halloween Mixer from 6- 9 p.m. in the Friendship Plaza of the UT Gardens.

This event helps put students in the Halloween spirit with free hot dogs and Halloween activi-

ties. Although the event is hosted and coordinated by the CASNR Ambassadors, clubs related to UT's Agriculture campus will run the different activities.

At the event, attendees had the chance to win baked goods at the Collegiate 4-H cakewalk, get their face painted by the sisters of Sigma Alpha, play corn hole with the brothers of Alpha Gamma Rho, or try out their throwing skills at the Block and Bridle egg toss just to name a few activities.

"The mixer is a great opportunity for students to get involved on the Agriculture campus," said Michael Ensminger, Special Events Coordinator for the Ambassadors.

Although the mixer was geared toward the human variety, in honor of Halloween, guests of the non-human variety were invited as well. In fact, the Pre-Vet Club had a special event planned for these guests – a pet costume contest. Human attendees weren't left out though, as they had their costume contest.

CASNR Halloween Mixer Brings Ag Campus Together for Fun, Food



CASNR Ambassador Jonathan Allen takes a break from the costume contest to get a face-painted moustache.

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Who Was Your Favorite Professor?



Each year, the UT Alumni Association funds awards that recognize excellence in the classroom. These awards are part of the association's continuing effort to encourage resourceful and creative instruction and to publicly recognize exceptional teaching, especially the teaching of undergraduates.

Selected by the Knoxville Campus Alumni Awards Committee, the winners will be announced at the spring Chancellor's Honors Banquet.

To nominate a current faculty member visit <http://volsconnect.com> and download a nomination form. Deadline for nominations is Friday, November 4.

Please note that winners of the Alumni Outstanding Teacher Award are ineligible to receive the award again for a period of five years.

For more information, contact Mary Holtman-Reed at mholtman@utk.edu.

UT and TSU Extension Program Aids Disabled Farmers



Dameon Berry is a hard-working, disabled farmer. Berry is working with the AgrAbility program to get a lift on his tractor (*click the link image above to watch the full story on youtube.com*)

The AgrAbility program serves Tennessee farmers through a combination of agriculture, engineering and rehabilitation. Sometimes it's designing equipment for producers, and in other instances, it's more about peer support.

Other contributing partners in this program include the East Tennessee Access Center, the STAR Center of Jackson, and the USDA. The private company "Life Essentials" does much of the work in transforming farm equipment for disabled producers.

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Job Opportunity

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

The Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences invites applicants for a tenure track position in Environmental Science. We seek a highly trained individual who is committed to a liberal arts education and can demonstrate excellence in teaching and research. Potential teaching opportunities include Introduction to Environmental Science, Environmental Policy, Climatology, Air Pollution, and other upper level courses in the candidate's area of expertise. The candidate will have the opportunity to develop an independent research program.

The environmental science major is one of two undergraduate majors within the Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences. We currently have 22 fulltime faculty in the department with about 460 undergraduate biology majors, 95 environmental science majors, and an M.S. program in biology with 35 students pursuing thesis and non-thesis degrees.

Knowledge/Skills and Abilities:

- Ability to teach introductory environmental science and upper level environmental science courses in area of specialization.
- Ability to teach field and/or laboratory-based courses.
- Ability to engage undergraduates and graduates in research.
- Ability to work collegially and effectively with university students, faculty, and staff.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Ph.D. in Environmental Science or a related field.
- Research experience (demonstrated by publication record).
- Undergraduate teaching experience.

Preferred Qualifications:

- We are particularly interested in candidates whose focus is on air pollution, air quality, or atmospheric science.

Interested candidates should apply online at <https://www.gcsujobs.com> and include a letter of application, vita, and the names and contact information (address, email address, and telephone number) of at least three references.

As the University System of Georgia's designated public liberal arts university, Georgia College & State University is committed to combining the educational experiences typical of esteemed private liberal arts colleges with the affordability of public higher education. GCSU is a residential learning community that emphasizes undergraduate education and offers selected graduate programs. The faculty is dedicated to challenging students and fostering excellence in the classroom and beyond. GCSU seeks to endow its graduates with a passion for achievement, a lifelong curiosity, and exuberance for learning. GCSU is a member of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC).

Georgia is an Open Records state. The finalist will be required to submit to a background investigation. GCSU is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution committed to cultural, racial, and ethnic communities and to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities.

Job Opportunity

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY
Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources
Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering

RESEARCH ENGINEER

Nature of Position:	A full-time professional position in support of the department's Environment and Natural Resource research program by developing stormwater control measures, erosion control devices, and models to describe these systems. Under the supervision of a faculty member, the individual in this position will actively participate in all aspects of research, including planning and executing laboratory and applied research projects; analysis of research results, preparation of reports and papers for journal publications, and preparation and delivery of educational information at professional meetings and to technical audiences.
Eligibility:	Minimum requirements: A Bachelor's degree in environmental science, natural resources management, biosystems or civil engineering, or closely related field, with 2 year of experience in engineering research and development. Prefer Master's degree and experience in research or lab studies in major field. Engineering applicants should have passed the Fundamentals of Engineering exam. Successful candidates must have excellent speaking and written communication skills.
Employment:	<p>Employment anticipated to begin on a date mutually agreed upon by all parties. Salary commensurate with education and experience. Paid benefits include health insurance, retirement programs, vacation and sick leave, and tuition assistance.</p> <p>Hiring and continued employment contingent upon available funding. Research engineers are expected to pursue a graduate degree while in this position. Continued employment also contingent upon satisfactory progress in a graduate program.</p>
Applications:	Interested candidates will make application through the university's on-line system at: http://jobs.okstate.edu . Copies of transcripts, if not attached electronically to online application, must be mailed to Research Engineer Search Committee, 111 Agricultural Hall, Stillwater, OK 74078, or faxed to (405) 744-6059.
Deadline:	Applications will be reviewed upon receipt. Acceptance of applications will continue through December 1 or until a suitable candidate is selected.

Job Opportunity

ONR invites Undergraduate and Graduate Students to:

The Naval Research Enterprise Intern Program (NREIP)



Administered by The American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE)
2012 Update!!!Sophomores now accepted!!!!!!

Program Information

- Ten week summer research opportunities at a Naval Research Laboratory or a Naval System Command Laboratory
- Stipend - \$5, 250.00 sophomore/ \$7,880.00 junior and senior undergrad/ \$10,500.00 grad

Eligibility Requirements

- Must be a U.S. citizen (dual citizens and permanent residents will be considered at some labs)
- Must be a sophomore, junior, senior, or graduate student (students who are currently freshman may apply but must reach sophomore credit level before June 2012)
- Must be currently enrolled at a 4 year U.S. accredited college/university



Participating Laboratories

- Laboratories Located in California, Florida, Maryland, Mississippi, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, and Washington D.C.

For more information and to apply please visit or contact us at:

www.asee.org/nreip

nreip@asee.org

Toll free: 888-715-ASEE

Application Opens October 1, 2011

The Department of the Navy is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer. All qualified candidates will receive consideration without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, marital status, political affiliation, sexual orientation, or any other non-merit factors. The Department of the Navy provides reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities.

Funding Available

ARLINGTON, VA, October 27, 2011—The Department of Defense's (DoD) **Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program (SERDP)** is seeking to fund environmental research and development proposals.

Proposals responding to focused Statements of Need (SON) in the following areas are requested:

- **Environmental Restoration** — Research and technologies for the characterization, risk assessment, remediation, and management of contaminants in soil, sediments, and water.
- **Munitions Response** — Technologies for the detection, classification, and remediation of military munitions on U.S. lands and waters.
- **Resource Conservation and Climate Change** — Research that advances DoD's management of its natural and cultural resources and improves understanding of climate change impacts.
- **Weapons Systems and Platforms** — Research and technologies to reduce, control, and understand the sources of waste and emissions in the manufacturing, maintenance, and use of weapons systems and platforms.

Proposals responding to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 SONs will be selected through a competitive process. Separate solicitations are available to Federal and non-Federal proposers. The SONs and detailed instructions are available on the SERDP web site at www.serdp-estcp.org/Funding-Opportunities/SERDP-Solicitations.

The Core SERDP Solicitation provides funding in varying amounts for multi-year projects. ***New this year, Federal organizations will submit pre-proposals online directly to SERDP. Core Solicitation pre-proposals from the Federal and non-Federal sectors are due Thursday, January 5, 2012.***

SERDP also will be funding environmental research and development through the **SERDP Exploratory Development (SEED) Solicitation**. The SEED Solicitation is designed to provide a limited amount of funding (not to exceed \$150,000) for projects up to approximately one year in duration to investigate innovative approaches that entail high technical risk or require supporting data to provide proof of concept. This year, SERDP is requesting SEED proposals for the **Munitions Response** program area. **SEED proposals from the Federal and non-Federal sectors are due Thursday, March 8, 2012.**

Funding Available

Deadline: December 22, 2011

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is announcing a unique grant opportunity for college and university **faculty** and **students** - EPA's P3 - People, Prosperity and the Planet - Program. Through this hands-on design competition, student teams and their faculty advisors receive \$15,000 grants to design scientific, technical, and policy solutions to sustainability challenges around the world.

Projects can address a challenge in one or more of these areas:

- water,
- energy,
- agriculture,
- built environment,
- materials & chemicals,
- green infrastructure,
- clean cookstoves.

Teams use the \$15,000 grants to design and develop their projects in the 2012/2013 school year. Then in the spring of 2013, all teams will come to Washington, DC, to compete for EPA's P3 Award at the 9th Annual National Sustainable Design Expo. The students' projects will be evaluated by a panel of experts convened by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. EPA will use these recommendations to choose the P3 Award winners who may receive an additional grant up to \$90,000 to further develop their designs, implement them in the field, and take them to the marketplace.

Visit our Web site for more information: <http://www.epa.gov/ncer/p3r/index.html>

For the official request for applications go to: <http://www.epa.gov/ncer/p3r/p3rfa.html>